

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested.

Claims 1-12 are present in this application, claims 10-12 being added by way of the present amendment. The amended claims and new claims 10, 11, and 12 are supported, for example, by the non-limiting disclosure of FIG. 49 and the corresponding description on page 69, lines 8-17. No new matter is believed to be added.

Under 35 USC §103(a), claims 1, 2 and 7 are rejected over US 5,963,704 (Mimura et al.) in view of US 6,047,089 (Abe) and US 6,788,880 (Fuchigami et al.), claims 3-6, 8 and 9 are rejected over Mimura et al. in view of Abe and Fuchigami et al., and further in view of US 2002/0110369 (Mori et al.).

The claims of the present invention are directed to a computer readable information storage medium storing highlight information with which a mixture or contrast of a video and sub-picture in a rectangular area of a display in which a button is displayed is altered, an information playback apparatus and an information playback method. For example, claim 1 recites a button mode field including a first flag describing whether a high definition button group exists. As a non-limiting example, the applicants refer to FIG. 49 and the corresponding description, page 69, lines 8-17. An HD-flag is included in PGC_SPST_CTL, which is included in PGC_GI (FIG. 47), which is included in PGCI (FIG. 46). As shown in FIG. 49, PGCI_SPST_CTL includes a decoding field (b28 to b24) for a sub-picture stream. If the decoding field is to be decoded as the sub-picture stream for standard definition, the HD-flag is set to "0b" and if the decoding field is to be decoded as the sub-picture stream for high definition, the HD-flag is set to "1b". An information storage medium as recited in claim 1 can store button information for high definition and sub-picture information for high definition in addition to button information for standard definition and sub-picture

information for standard definition. Therefore, it is possible to present sub-picture information with an improved quality, such as a caption or menu information.

Turning to the prior art rejections, Mimura et al. is cited for teaching a button for standard definition, but does not teach a button for high definition, as stated in the Office Action on page 3. The flag in claims 1, 3 and 5 describes whether a high definition button group exists. Mimura et al., which fails to teach a button for high definition, does not disclose the first flag of claims 1, 3 and 5 (and does not aim to improve a presentation quality of the sub-picture information for high definition). The Office Action only asserts that the button mode field in Mimura et al. includes a flag describing whether a button group exists, not whether a high definition button exists. Claims 1, 3 and 5 are not disclosed or suggested by Mimura et al.

Abe is asserted to teach a button for high definition (FIG. 9 and column 8, lines 49-67). However, Abe merely teaches an image expansion process for a compressed still image is selected via button 29. The image is compressed using a two-dimensional DCT. The DCT coefficients are quantized using default quantization tables Qy and Qc which are recorded in the first table recording area M2 of the recording medium M. In the second table recording area M3, quantization tables Qsy and Qsc are recorded (see col. 4, lines 13-56). If high definition mode is selected by operating the selecting button 29, the compressed image is expanded using the quantization tables Qsy and Qsc for a high definition image or a mosaic process (col. 8, line 49 to col. 9, line 6). The selecting button 29 is a user-operable button connected to a mode switching device 27 as shown in FIG. 4.

In contrast to Abe, the button information of claims 1, 3 and 5 is a rectangular area of a display. Abe fails to teach the high definition button group recited in claim 1. Further, Abe fails to teach the first flag of claims 1, 3 and 5. Claims 1, 3 and 5 are not disclosed or

suggested by Abe et al. and, thus, claims 1, 3 and 5 would not be obtained by combining the teachings of Mimura et al. and Abe.

Fuchigami et al. teaches AOTT AOBS still-picture data attribute ATS-SPCT-ATR including TV system (b13 and b12), aspect ratio (b11 and b10), display mode (b9 and b8), and source picture resolution (b5, b4, and b3) in FIG. 53. Fuchigami et al. also teaches highlight information (ASV-HLI) including button position information ASV-BTN-POSI (see FIG. 87). However, Fuchigami et al. does not teach the button position information being changed depending on a TV system, contrary to the assertions made in the Office Action. No link is described between still picture data attributes and the button position information. There is also no assertion that Fuchigami et al. discloses the flag of claims 1, 3 and 5. Thus, one skilled in the art would not obtain the recording medium of claim 1, the apparatus of claim 3 and the method of claim 5 from a combination of Mimura et al., Abe and Fuchigami et al. It is also clear that Fuchigami et al. does not disclose cure the deficiencies noted above in Mimura et al. and Abe.

New claims 10, 11, and 12 find support, for example, in the non-limiting example of FIG. 49 and the corresponding description on page 69, lines 8-17. An HD-flag is included in PGC_SPST_CTL which is included in PGC_GI (FIG. 47) which is included in PGCI (FIG. 46). As shown in FIG. 49, PGCI_SPST_CTL includes a decoding field (b28 to b24) for a sub-picture stream. If the decoding field is to be decoded as the sub-picture stream for standard definition, the HD-flag is set to "0b" and if the decoding field is to be decoded as the sub-picture stream for high definition, the HD-flag is set to "1b". Thus, an information storage medium can store button information for high definition and sub-picture information for high definition in addition to button information for standard definition and sub-picture information for standard definition. Therefore, it is possible to present sub-picture

information with an improved quality, such as a caption or menu information. Claims 10-12 are also believed to be not disclosed or suggested by the cited prior art.

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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